UNCLASSIFIED

AD NUMBER AD505875 CLASSIFICATION CHANGES TO: UNCLASSIFIED FROM: CONFIDENTIAL LIMITATION CHANGES

TO:

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

FROM:

20310.

Distribution authorized to U.S. Gov't. agencies and their contractors;
Administrative/Operational Use; 31 JUL 1969.
Other requests shall be referred to Office of the Adjutant General (Army), Washington, DC

AUTHORITY

AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980 ; AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

SECURITY MARKING

The classified or limited status of this report applies to each page, unless otherwise marked.

Separate page printouts MUST be marked accordingly.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES WITHIN THE MEANING OF THE ESPIONAGE LAWS, TITLE 18, U.S.C., SECTIONS 793 AND 794. THE TRANSMISSION OR THE REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS IN ANY MANNER TO AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW.

NOTICE: When government or other drawings, specifications or other data are used for any purpose other than in connection with a definitely related government procurement operation, the U.S. Government thereby incurs no responsibility, nor any obligation whatsoever; and the fact that the Government may have formulated, furnished, or in any way supplied the said drawings, specifications, or other data is not to be regarded by implication or otherwise as in any manner licensing the holder or any other person or corporation, or conveying any rights or permission to manufacture, use or sell any patented invention that may in any way be related thereto.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY CE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERA

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310

AGDA (M) (12 Nov 69)

21 November 1969

50

~

AD5058

Operational Report Lessons Learned, Headquarters, 7th Battalion,

15th Artillery, P ried Ending 31 July 1969 (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 4b, AR 525-15. Evaluations and corrective actions should be reported to ACSFOR OT UT, Operational Reports Branch, within 90 days of receipt of covering letter.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

1 Incl

DISTRIBUTION:

Commanding Generals

US Continental Army Command

US Army Combat Developments Command

Commandants

US Army War College

US Army Command and General Staff College

US Army Air Defense School

US Army Armor School

US Army Aviation School

US Army Engineer School

US Army Field Artillery School

US Army Infantry School

US Army Ordnance School

US Army Special Warfare School

Copies furnished: Office, Chief of Staff, US Army Deputy Chiefs of Staff

Regraded unclassified when separated from classified inclosure.

003 650

DISTRIBUTION (Cont'd) Chief of Research and Development Assistant Chiefs of Staff Chief of Engineers Chief of Military History OSD(SA) Assistant for Southeast Asia Forces Director, Defense Research and Engineering Commanding Generals US Army Materiel Command US Army Weapons Command Commandant of the Marine Corps Defense Documentation Center Security Officer, Hudson Institute USAF Project RAND Commanding Officers US Army Limited War Laboratory US Army Logistics, Doctrine Systems & Readiness Agency US Army Mobility Equipment Research & Development Center 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY Headquarters, 7th Battalion 15th Artillory APO San Francisco 96368

AVGK-AB-CO

31 July 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. (C) Section 1 Significant Activities.

a. General.

- (1) Throughout the reporting period the battalion continued its assigned mission of general support to US, RVNAF and FWMAF, reinforcing the fires of the 3d Battalion, 319th Artillery in the Dan Coung-Lee AO. Both A and B Batteries remained under the battalion control. At the beginning of the reporting period Battery C continued temporary attachment to 52d Artillery Group and was further attached to the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery. The battery's mission is general support of US, RVNAF, and FWMAF in the Hines AO. On 21 July 1969, Battery C was placed OFCON to the 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery, continuing temporary attachment to 52d Artillery Group, with no change in mission. Battery C, 2d Battalion 17th Artillery continues temporary attachment to this battalion. On 26 May 1969, the battalion received the semi-annual Command Inspection conducted by IFFORCEV Artillery, receiving a rating of satisfactory.
- (2) During this period, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery remained at LZ Uplift (BR928755) providing command control to the battalion elements. On 27 June 1969, a TAC CP consisting of the battalion FDC and selected operations personnel moved to LZ Pony. At 010001 July 1969, this element began operations as an Artillery Control Agency (ACA) providing FSCC functions for US/RVN Forces in Hoai An District. This ACA was

FOR OT UT 693323

Inclosure

CONFIDENTIAL

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DER 5200,10

AVGK-AB-CO
31 July 1969
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period
Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

established at the direction of the 41st Artillery Group as requested by the Commanding General, 173d Airborne Brigade. A North-South FCL was established along the Phu My/Hoai An District boundary. 7th Battalion, 13th Artillery continues FSCC functions for Phu My District and 3/319th Artillery continues FSCC functions in Binh Dinh Province north of Hoai An/Phu My Districts. The East-West FCL along the northern boundaries of Hoai An and Phu My remains in effect. On 13 June 1969, Captain Richard E. Fisher assumed command of Headquarters Battery vice Captain Alonzo B. Ramsey. During July, a new Executive Officer, Major John E. Boggs, Jr., and S-3, Major William J. Emacio, joined the battalion 14 July 1969 and 17 July 1969, respectively. Construction of a new BOQ bunker was completed on 25 May 1969. The structure provides living quarters for eight officers with provisions for visiting officers. Construction began on a new Headquarters Battery Orderly Room on 4 July 1969. This facility will provide offices for the Battery Commander and First Sergeant and will contain a supply room. All perimeter fighting bunkers of Headquarters Battery are in process of being renovated or rebuilt. The estimated completion date of both projects is 1 September 1969.

(3) Battery A, located at LZ Pony (BR800829) continued the assigned mission of general support to US, RVNAF and FWMAF in Lee AO, reinforcing 3d Battalion, 319th Artillery. On 22 July 1969, the 8 inch howitzer platoon displaced from LZ Pony to LZ Zager (BS878061) to fire upon intelligence targets in the Cay Biep mountains (BR9597) in preparation for an operation conducted by 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry. The platoon returned to LZ Pony on 29 July 1969. On 14 May 1969, this battery recedived a rebuilt 175mm gun (12AT38); and 175mm gun (12AT46 was retrogramed graded to COMUS. The battery received a second requilt 175mm gun on 27 May 1969, when 12AT72 replaced 12AT82. In continuation of the battery area improvement program, the ammunition section completed new living quarters during the first week of May. The officers quarters were completed and occupied on 22 May 1969. During the first week of June, excavation was started for an improved ammunition storage area. To date one powder bunker is completed and a second projectile bunker is nearing completion. Remaining to be built is a second powder bunker and fuze bunker. On 10 June 1969, Captain Gregory L. Crawford assumed command from Captain Thomas D. Reddick, who was reassigned for duty as the battalion Assistant S-3. During the last two weeks of June, the battery assisted the battalion FDC in preparing facilities to assume its newly assigned mission of establishing an Artillery Control Agency for Hoai An District effective

Inclosure

2

AVGK-AB-CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

1 July 1969. Construction of a new projectile parapet; powder and fuze bunkers, and renovation of gun pads began on 6 July 1969. New perimeter wire barriers, strengthening the overall defense of LZ Pony, is nearing completion. Ammunition expenditures for the quarter were 2292 rounds 8 inch en 622 missions, and 3806 rounds 175mm on 1133 missions.

(4) During the reporting period, Battery B continued its mission of general support of US, RVNNF and FWMF in Lee AO, reinforcing the fires of the 3d Battalion, 319th Artillery. The battery CP remained at LZ Uplift (BR928755). On 3 May 1969, the 175mm platoon conducted a two day raid to LZ Zager (BS878061) to fire upon intelligence targets in the Fish Hook area (BR6521). The platoon returned to LZ Uplift on 4 May and on 7 May 1969, the 175mm gun platoon displaced to LZ Zager where it remains to continue firing in the Fish Hook area. Battery B received a somi-annual Command Inspection by IFFORCEV Artillery on 26 May 1969. Overall rating of the battery inspected at both LZ Uplift and LZ Zager was satisfactory. On 6 June 1969, the 8 inch howitzer platoon displaced to LZ Crystal (BR895664) to fire in support of the Capital RCK Infantry Division during Phase I of "Operation Bi Ho 23" conducted in the Soui Cau Valley (BR8066). The platoon returned on 7 June 1969. On 13 June 1969, the 8 inch platoon again displaced to LZ Crystal to support Phase II of "Operation Bi Ho 23" and the platoon returned on 15 June 1969. The platoon received a rebuilt 175mm gun, 12AU51 on 11 June 69, and 175mm gun 12AT56 was retrograded to CONUS. A second rebuilt 175mm gun, 12Z500, was received 3 July 1969 at LZ Zager to replace 12AT60. On 6 July 1969, the 175mm gun platoon's 10,000th round was fired since the platoon was retubed from 8 inch to 175mm on 30 November 1968. At LZ Uplift on 10 July 1969, Battery B fired the battalion's 250,000 round since arrival in Vietnam in July 1967. Present at the ceremony worse Colonel Joseph C. Kiefe, Commanding Officer, 41st artillery Group and the Battalion Commander, Lieutemant Colonel Henry E. Simpson, Jr. On 26 July 1969, the battery conducted artillery orientation classes for team 14A, D/1/503d In antry at LZ Uplift. Twenty enlisted men and one officer attended. Subjects discussed or demonstrated were firing battery procedures. fire direction center procedures, laying the battery and ammunition characteristics. During the reported period, an additional room was added to the motor pool to store PLL and a M109 shop van displaced to LZ Zager to provide administrative and storage capabilities for a plateon motor pool operations. New ammunition bunkers around the gun pads are being constructed. A 1000 inch rifle range was constructed enabling the battery to familiarize and test fire all small arms to include .50 caliber machine guns. On 25 June 1969, the battery was given the mission of constructing a transient platoon fire base at LZ Zager. Excavation for the six buildings began on 28 June 1969. Also constructed during the period was a ten room NCO Quarters and

AVGK-AB-CO
31 July 1969
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969. RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

two fighting bunkers. During the reporting period 1320 8 inch rounds were expended on 475 targets and 3249 175mm rounds were expended on 961 targets.

- (5) Battery C continued its mission of general support of US, RVNAF and FIMAF in the Hines AO. At the beginning of the reporting period, the battery continued temporary attachment to the 2d Battalion, 17th Artillery 52d Artillery Group. On 21 July 1969, Battery C was placed OPCON to the 3d Battalion, 6th Artillery with no change in mission. On 1 June 1969, the 2d Squadron, 1st Cavalry moved to Phan Thiet and was replaced at LZ Black-hawk by the 2d Battalion, 8th Infantry (Mechanized). 2d Battalion, 8th Infantry (Mechanized) has its own LNO/FO parties permitting the battery to be relieved of LNO/FO commitments previously provided to 2/lst Cavalry. On 15 June 1969, and 26 June 1969, the battery 175mm guns were tubed with two Mil3El. 175mm autofratauged tubes designed to have a longer tube life. These tubes are undergoing in-country tosts. The battery was informed that all zone 3 rounds must be fired with additive jackets; the tube must be bore-scoped and have a pullover gauge test every 300, 500, and 700 rounds; and after 700 rounds have been lired the borescope and pullover gauge test will be conducted every 100 rounds thereafter. On 19 July 1969. First Lieutenant Robert W. Riddle assumed command from Captain James S. Shields. Improvement of position continued during this reporting period. New personnel quarters for the four howitzer sections and renovation of all gun parapets were completed. Relocation of the maintenance section and motor pool, positioned on the north side of the battery area, was completed. Three additional living quarters for the maintenance section, communications section, and the mess section were also completed. The battery improved the perimeter by replacing overhead cover on all bunkers and installing additional claymore mines. An interdiction program was implemented, amploying M79 and M16 fires on the perimeter. The battery received a starlight scope on 8 June 1969 to improve observation from the perimeter at night. Ammunition expenditure for the quarter was 2206 rounds 8 inch on 645 missions and 2178 rounds 175mm on 329 missions.
- (6) Service Battery remained at Camp Fidel (BR900400) providing personnel services and logistical support to the batteries of the battalion. On 10 June 1969, Captain Hans D. Langhammer assumed command from Captain John W. O'Reilly, Jr. The policy of maintaining the batter; supply sections under the centralized control of the S-4 is continued. During the reporting period Service Battery renovated their mess hall, initiated the building of a new motor pool, and planned for a new EM transient quarters. On 26 May 1969,

AVGK-AB-CO
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

the buttery received its semi-annual Command Inspection conducted by IFFORCEV Artillery and obtained a rating of satisfactory.

- (7) Battalion organization is shown in Inclosures 1 and 2.
- (8) Battalion displacements are shown in Inclosure 3.
- b. Intelligence.
- (1) Enemy Situation:
- (a) Enemy Activity: Enemy activity in the Lee AO has been characterized mainly by boobytraps, mining, and small unit contacts. The majority of the boobytrapping and mining has taken place in the northern portion of the AO and in the vicinity of the Dam Tra-O Lake (BR9681). Small unit contacts have not been confined to any particular area. The latter part of the reporting period has shown a slight increase in enemy activity with peak of the summer offensive occurring between the seventh and seventeenth of July 1969.
- (b) Enemy Units: The major enemy units reported in the Lec 1.0 are as follows:

UNIT	APPROXIMATE LOCATION	ESTIMATED STRENCTH
XC 11th Bn	BR948941	205
C/l Inf Co	BR998665	60
C/2 Inf Co	BR930707	60
D/21 Inf Co	B S8 50066	35
D/22 Inf Go	BR784904	90
D 35th Inf Co	BS913124	27
D 40th Sapper Co	BS884083	80

(c) Enemy attacks on fire bases have been mainly from enemy mortar. There was one major sapper attack against LZ English, during the month of May, which resulted in one US KIA and eleven WIA. The attack was believed conducted by sappers of D-35th Company. There have been no major ground attacks during the reporting period.

AVGK-AB-CO
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artiller, for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

- (2) There are two hundred and twenty personnel in the battalion who possess a secret or higher clearance. During the reported period fifty-four personnel with clearances were debriefed, thirty-eight clearances were validated and eleven personnel were processed for initial clearances.
- (3) A Battery forward observers were deployed to the Hawknest (BR934395), a high altitude observation post which is located in the Cay Giop Mountains. This site affords excellent observation of the Cay Giop Mountains and the lowland from QL-1 to the coast. The battalion provided an air observer to the 173d Airborne Brigade at LZ English (BR875011) until 22 June 1969, when the requirement for an officer AO was terminated, due to the lack of aircraft. The battalion still continues to provide an enlisted AO for the 173d Airborne Brigade. The below is a listing of FO's employed other than those deployed to the Hauknest from Battery A.

LT F	Esser	Employed by 52d Artillery Group in support of operation in Bon Het area	From 26 May to 30 May
LT E	lsser	Employed by 173d Airborne Brigade to 4th MSF Battalion in An Lao Valley area (BR7699)	From 2 July to 20 July
LT (Dhman	Employed by 173d Airborne Brigade to 4th MSF Battalion	From 21 July to 27 July

- (4) The battalion conducted an aggressive VIP program during the reporting period. The 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery spent \$21,000VN and the attached unit, C/2/17 Artillery, spent \$23,600VN. The types of ammunition received varied from a 175mm shell to small arms aroundition. The following is a list of items received under VIP: 1 175mm shell, 2 155mm shells, 16 105mm shells, 8 82mm shells, 20 60mm shells, 1 40mm shell, 4 107 RR rounds, 100 M79 rounds, 8 M72 LAW, 1500 small arms ammo rounds, 4 claymore mines, 2 satched charges, 1 840 Rocket, and 1 SKS rifle.
- (5) The meteorological section conducts four flights daily. Release time is at 0200, 0800, 1400 and 2000 hours and broadcast time is 1½ hours after each release. Prior to 28 May, all metro soundings were visual only. On 21 May 69, the metro section was issued a Rawin set. Installation, calibration and familiarization required seven days and at 281400 May 1969, the

AVGK-AB-CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period
Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

meteorological section resumed electronic operations. The metro section produces and broadcasts both the NATO message for manual fire missions and also the computer message for FADAC computed fire missions. 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery also furnishes raw weather data to Fhu Cat Air Base. This raw data consists of temperature, air density, winds at various levels and humidity. This data is used for aircraft missions. IFFORCEV Artillery cited the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery meteorological section for outstanding performance, for the period 16 May 1969 to 15 June 1969, for producing 123 of a possible 124 soundings. The meteorological technician, CWO Reed, departed PCS on 25 July 1969.

- c. Operations and Training Activity.
- (1) Plans:
- (a) The Hoai An District Fire Support Plan is currently under revision. Forward observers from the 3d Battalion, 319th Artillery and 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery are supervising planning and firing in of defensive targets (DT's) by Regional Forces, Popular Forces and Revolutionary Development Teams in Hoai An District in support of the district Phase II 1969 Pacification Plan which began 2 July 1969. Firing of the DT is adjusted by the Vietnamese forces on the ground; and firing is accomplished by B/3/221 ARVI Artillery, a 105mm platoon at LZ Orange, whenever possible. Vietnamese forces show an interest in the employment of DT's for their fire support.
- (b) On 1 July 1969, the Commander, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery was assigned responsibility to plan for Steel Cable Bravo, a contingency in the Lee AO, and execute when directed by the Commandin: Officer 41st Artillery Group.
 - (2) Operations:
- (a) Of the 267 battery days available in this period 263 battery days were utilized to provide heavy artiller; support for tactical operations and four battery days were used for tactical displacements.
- (b) The Artillery Control Agency (ACA) was established by Commanding Officer, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery as directed by Commanding Officer, 41st Artillery Group in Hoad An at 010001 July 1969 per request of the Commanding General, 173d Airborne Brigade. The five principle functions of the ACA are:
 - 1 Perform FSE functions for US and RVN manuever forces in hoad An District.

AVGK-AB-CO

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (J)

- 2 Plan, allocate and tactically control all US fires in Hoai An District.
- 3 Provide technical fire direction control of organic units in Lee AO.
- <u>&</u> Obtain political/military clearances and log stats through the Artillery LNO at LZ Orange and disseminate this information to units capable of firing into Hoai An District,
- 5 Receive and pass all air advisories from five units located in Mon1 An District, to 7th Battalion, 13th Artillery for broadcasting.
- (c) The Capital ROK Infantry Division's "Operation Bi Ho 23" was supported by 8 inch howitzer plateon of Battery B, on 6 June 69 to 7 June 69, and 13 June 69 to 15 June 69 from LZ Crystal. The plateon expended 56 HE rounds in support of the operation.
- (d) On 3 May 1969, B Battery 175m platoon conducted a two day raid to LZ Zager to fire upon intelligence targets in the Fish Hook area. The platoon returned to LZ Uplift on 4 May 1969 and on 7 May 1969 the 175mm gun platoon displaced to LZ Zager where it remaines to continue firing in the Fish Hook area.
- (e) On 22 July 1969, A Battery 8 inch howitzer plateon displaced from LZ Pony to LZ Zager to fire upon intelligence targets in the Cay Giep Mountains in preparation for an operation conducted by 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry. The plateon returned to LZ Pony on 29 July 1969.
 - (3) Training:
- (a) The battalion continued training in fire direction, firing battery, safe driving, maintenance, communications, security, field sanitation, safety, perimeter defense and command information. With the exception of safe driving and command information, training was conducted at section level.
- (b) All newly assigned personnel continue to receive an intensive operational and administrative orientation briefing by the battalion and assigned batteries.
- (c) During the period three El and one officer graduated from the 41st Artillery Group Forward Observer School at An Khe. Six officers graduated from the 52d Artillery Group Fire Direction Officer School at Pleiku.
- (d) On 14 June 1969, a team of technicians from 554th Maintenance/86th Maintenance Battalion instructed and familarized the Headquarters RTT personnel

AVCK-AB-CO
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period
Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFCR-65 (R1) (U)

with the components and operation of the AN/GRC-142. The headquarters communications personnel then instructed firing buttery communications personnel in the AN/GRC-142.

- (e) On 16 July 1969, a maintenance technician from 41st Artillery Group Headquarters, S-4 section, instructed the FLL clerks of Eatteries A, B, Headquarters and Service concerning proper records keeping and techniques of maintaining units prescribed load lists and repair parts.
- (f) On 10 July 1969, the battalion communications section conducted a class on preparation of the new DD 173 message form recently implemented worldwide.
- (g) On 26 July 1969, B Battery conducted artillery orientation classes for Team 14A, D/1/503d Infantry at 1Z Uplift. Twenty enlisted men and one officer attended. Subjects discussed were firing battery procedures, fire direction procedures, laying the battery and ammunition characteristics.

d. Logistics.

- (1) During the reporting period the S-4 section continued to supply the batteries of the battelion with Class I, III, and V.
 - (2) Significant items issued during the period were:

QUANTITY	
1 oa	
5 өд	
7 ca	
3 ca	
20,000 Board	Feet
167,000 Board	Feet
400 Bage	
6 Rolls	
210 Rolls	
1500 Feet	
48 Ou Foe	t
900 Pounds	;
	1 ca 5 ca 7 ca 3 ca 20,000 Board 167,000 Board 400 Bags 6 Rolls 210 Rolls 1500 Feet 48 Qu Foe

(3) Amminition delivered to the firing batteries by the battalion ammunition section amounted to 10,061 each projectiles, fuzes, and propellant charges. Additional rounds were supplied by firing battery trains.

AVGK-AB-CO
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period
Ending 31 July 1969, RCS, CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

e. Civil Affairs.

- (1) During the reporting period the battalion provided several wiremen to assist the Phu My District Advisors in installation of electric street lights in the city of Phu My. The battalion also participated in a project to repair two kilometers of road in the Hoai An District.
- '(2) The battalion furnished the following material to Hoai An District for construction of approved Civic Action Projects.
 - (a) 400 lbs of cement
 - (b) 30 board feet of lumber
 - (c) 50 lbs of clothing
- (3) As part of a civic action program, 800 lbs of edible garbage from the A Battery mess hall was provided to local villagors for animals.
- (4) The battalion medical section provides MEDCAP services to an average of 25 persons daily through the battalion MEDCAP station at LZ Uplift. This permanent aid station continues to perform a vital mission in the area of civil affairs, and for many of the patients, it is the only medical service available.

f. Personnel.

- (1) During the reporting period, personnel and administrative operations continued on a relatively stable basis. Assigned losses for the reporting period were 191 personnel while gains were 177 personnel. Critical NCO personnel shortages existed in 13B40 E-6, 13E40 E-7, 13E40 E-6, 13E40 E-5 and 76¥40 E-6. The following warrant officer personnel losses during the reporting period remain unfilled and are critical to operation: unit personnel technician, vacant since 4 June 69; unit supply technician, vacant since 27 May 69; and meteorological technician, vacant since 25 July 1969. At the conclusion of the reporting period the strength of the battalion was 98% of assigned versus authorized.
- (2) The established goal of the Public Information Program of this battalion is 100% coverage, which means at least one home town news release per individual per year, and more frequently when warranted. News releases are obtained from each individual who is newly assigned, is promoted or receives an award. The purpose of this program is to insure that all personnel are

AVCK-AB-CO
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

appropriately recognized by the news media for their accomplishments and activities. During the reporting period the battalion has prepared and forwarded more than 145 hometown news releases.

(3) The battalion has continued a vigorous awards and decorations program over the reporting period. The purpose of this program is to appropriately recognize individual valor, achievement and service. The battalion forwarded more than seventy recommendations for awards and has need at sixty-six approved awards which were either presented or forwarded to the individual's new duty station.

g. Other.

- (1) Maintenance:
- (a) The MIIO/MIO7 Quarterly Maintenance Program continues to be successful in reducing weapon down time for maintenance. In addition, crews are more knowledgeable concerning maintenance of the gur/hewitzer due to the instruction received during the quarterly maintenance.
- (b) During the reporting period, this battalion retrograded the following 1107 guns.

BATTERY	CANNON #	REPLACED	DATE
A	12AT38	12AT46	14 May 1969
A	12AT72	12AT82	27 May 1969
B	12AU51	12AT56	11 Jun 1969
B	12Z500	12AT60	2 Jul 1969
C	12AT32	12AU05	8 Jun 1969

- (c) Battery C located at Landing Zone Blackhark has received for testing, the new Ml13El 175mm gun tube which has an expected life of 1200 EFC rounds.
- (d) This battalion has organized a Eattalion Command Maintenance Management Inspection (CMMI) Team to further improve equipment maintenance. This action has greatly improved the equipment condition and equipment records throughout this unit. To date each battery has been inspected at least twice by this team.
- (2) Medical: During the above period, the battalion surgeon visited all the batteries treating individuals for a variety of disorders, and performing routine field and mess inspections. The program to skin test (Tine) all

AVGK-4B-CO
SEJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalian 15th Artillary for Pariod Ending 31 July 1969, ROS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

assigned personnel for tuberculosis was continued with no active cases noted. This program has been continued due to the high incidence of tuberculosis among the civilian population of Vietnam.

Minor Injuries Dermatological Disorders Veneral Diseases Neuropsychiatric Cases Hospitalized Injuries URI Diarrheas FUO Malaria	140 81 17 9 9 7 3
Misc Illnesses	373
TOTAL CASES TREATED Man days lost in hospital Man days lost in quarters Immigrations	650 103 11 375

- (3) Communications: Communication within the battalion continued to function efficiently. During the reporting period, this battalion received seven AN/GRC-142 (AM radios) and have installed sets at 12 English, LZ Pony, LZ Blackhawk, and LZ Uplift. Coincident to the Artillery Clearing Agency being established at LZ Pony, the communications section installed seven fM radios with RC-292 antennas, completed AC wiring for the bunker complex, and installed secure voice equipment. In addition to insuring continuing communications throughout the battalion, the communication section began construction of a new communications shop facility. The facility will house offices for the communication officer and communications chief, the headquarters switchboard, the radio repair section, and a combined wire equipment and PLL room. Estimated date of completion of the facility is 10 August 1969.
- 2. (C) Lassons Learned: Commander's Observations, Evaluation and Recommendations.
 - a. Personnel. None
 - b. Operations.
 - (1) Graphical Firing Table (GFT) for Zone 2, 175mm Gun:

#VGK-AB-CO 31 July 1969
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artillery for Feriod
Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

- (a) Observation: The GFT for sone 2, 175mm gan is applicable to a maximum range of 20,500 meters, while the Taburar Firing Table (1777) gives a maximum range of 22,000 meters for the same zone. The M18 computer (FADAC) can produce firing data for zone 2 up to approximately 22,500 meters. Zone 2 is utilized instead of zone 3 whenever the situation permits to prolong the tube life of the 175mm ran.
- (b) Evaluation: Manual computation of firing data for zone 2 above 20,500 meters can be accomplished only by using the TFT. This is a slow and cumbersome procedure because interpolation is required to determine a new elevation for each of the observer corrections.
- (c) Recommendations: That the zone 2 GFT be modified to include ranges in excess of 22,500 meters to expedite manual computation of firing data. A greater range such as 22,800 meters would allow for a favorable met.

(2) Blocking Fires:

- (a) Observation: In the planning of blocking fires and firing of trairrunner missions (trail runner is a known or suspected enemy infiltration or supply route), the chart work and computing can become extensive for heavy artillary unit.
- (b) Evaluation: These types of missions require the plotting of each end point and each point one hundred meters along a line between them. This chart work can be greatly reduced without the loss of accuracy by the use of FADAC.
- (c) Recommendation: That each end point be plotted and chart data determined for each. One end point is designated as the conserver, and the other end point is designated as the target. Survey data is determined giving an azimuth from the observer to the target and a distance between them. The point which was designated the observer is placed in as the target and firing data is obtained. The azimuth between the two points is used as an OT direction and subsequent rounds are computed by adding equal intervals throughout the entire distance. Chart data is checked on each end point only and subsequent point is recorded to include the grid from FADAC. Manual checks include the chart data and firing data for each end point. A visual check is made to insure that FADAC is applying a relatively constant change to deflection and quadrant. All altitude changes can be comprehended by up or down shifts as appropriate. This method has reduced the computation time of

AVGE_AB_CO 31 July 1969
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion 15th Artiliary for Period
Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFCR-65 (R1) (U)

trail runners for this unit by fifty percent as an average with no sacrifice of accuracy and has proven affective in observed and une served Mres.

- (c) Training. None
- (d) Intelligence Mana

4 Incl

as Incls 1 - 4 wd HQ, DA HENRY Z. SIMPSON, JR LTC, Field Artillory Commanding

DISTRIBUTION:

2-CINCUSARPAC, ATTN: GPOP-DT 3-CG, USARV, ATTN: AVHGC (DST) 6-CO, 41st Arty Cp AVGK-CO (31 July 69) 1st Ind (U)
SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery for
Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS, CSFOR-65 (R1)(U)

DA, Headquarters, 41st Artillery Group, APO 96368 14 Aug 1969

TO: Commanding General, I Field Force Vietnam Artillery, ATTN: AVFA-AT-D, APO 96350

This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report - Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery and concurs with the report.

Ray & Burnell &

Colonel, Field Artillery

Commanding

Cy Furn: CO, 7/15 Arty

AVFA-AT-D (31 Jul 69) 2d Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

- DA, Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam Artillery, APO 96350
- TO: Commanding General, I Field Force Vietnam, ATTN: AVFA-CG-OT, APO 96350
- 1. This headquarters concurs with the subject report.
- 2. Reference paragraph 2b: To speed the computation of check data for the FADAC the Fire Direction Officer School in Pleiku is instructing on the use of "C" factor to compute a new quadrant.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

JAMES N. BEIL Lieutenant Colonel, FA Adjutant

16

CONFIDENTIAL

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS; DOCLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS. DOD DIR 5200,10 AVFA-GC-HIST (31 Jul 69) 3d Ind SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion, 15th artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969 RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

DA, Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam, APO 96350 24 SEP 1989

TO: Commanding General, United States Army Vietnam, ATT:: AVHGC-DST, APO 96375

This headquarters has evaluated subject URLL and forwarding indorsements and concurs.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

FREDERICK E HOLLAND

ASST AS

CF:

1 - I FFORCEV Arty

1 - 41st Arty Gp 1 - 7/15th Arty AVHGC-DST (31 Jul 69) 4th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, ECS CEFOR-65 (R1) (U)

HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY, VIETNAM, APO San Francisco 96375 11 007 1020

TO: Commander in Chief, United States Army, Pacific, ATTN: GPOP-DT, APO 96558

1. This headquarters has reviewed the Operational Report-Lessons Learned for the quarterly period ending 31 July 1969 from Headquarters, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery.

2. Comments follow:

- a. Reference item concerning "Graphical Firing Table (GFT) for Zone 2, 175mm Gun", section II, page 12, paragraph 2b(1); concur. Recommend that the United States Army Field Artillery School, Fort Sill, Oklahoma be tasked to modify the GFT as stated.
- b. Reference item concerning "Blocking Fires", section II, page 13, paragraph 2b(2); concur. This item has been extracted and will be published in a USARV Training Newsletter. Recommend further dissemination by USARFAC and DA.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

C. d. WILSON

Assistant Adjutant Ceneral

Cy furn: 7/15th Arty I FFV GPOP-DT (31 Jul 69) 5th Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report of HQ, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1)

HQ, US Army, Pacific, APO San Francisco 96558 21 007 89

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Department of the Army, Washington, D. C. 20310

This headquarters concurs in subject report as indorsed.

FOR THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF:

19

DOCUMENT CONTROL DATA : R & D				
(Security classification of little, body of abattact and indexing annotation must be entered when the overall report is classified: 1. ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (Corporate author) 28. REPORT SECURITY CLASSIFICATION				
T ORIGINATING ACTIVITY (COMPONED CLASSE)	CONFIDENTIAL			
HQ, OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310	ab. GROUP			
	4			
S REPORT TITLE				
Operational Report - Lessons Learned, HQ,	7th Battalion, 15th Artillery			
4. DESCRIPTIVE NOTES (Type of report and inclusive dates)				
Experiences of unit engaged in counterinsu	rgency operations, 1 May 69 to 31 July 69.			
5 AUTHORIS) (First name, middle initial, last name)				
CO, 7th Battalion, 15th Artillery				
PEPORT DATE	76. TOTAL NO. OF PAGES 76. NO. OF REFS			
31 July 1969	22			
M. CONTRACT OR GRANT NO	SE. ORIGINATOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)			
b. PROJECT NO	693323			
N/A c.	9b. OTHER REPORT NOISI (Any other numbers that may be assigned this report)			
	and report)			
d.	<u></u>			
TO DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT				
	12. SPONSORING MILITARY ACTIVITY			
11 SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES				
N/A	OACSFOR, DA, Washington, D.C. 20310			
	<u> </u>			
IS ABSTRACT				
i				
	Sec. 8			
1	20			
1				

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN DELIMITED AND CLEARED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE UNDER DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.20 AND NO RESTRICTIONS ARE IMPOSED UPON ITS USE AND DISCLOSURE.

DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A

APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE; DISTRIBUTION UNLIMITED,